

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

5 a memory which stores at least one message and detailed information concerning at least one said message;

a display section which displays a displayed message, which is stored in the memory, and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image;

10 a control section which controls the display section; and an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message thereon;

15 wherein if the displayed message displayed by the display section corresponds to the detailed information, the display section displays identification information, which indicates that the detailed information corresponding to the displayed message is available for display, together with the displayed message;

20 wherein the control section causes the display section to display the detailed information of the displayed message as the help message if the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed on the display section; and

25 wherein the control section causes the display section to display detailed information concerning the setting window as the help message if the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on the display section.

2. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control section recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in said memory, when controlling said display section to display the displayed message.

5 3. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 2, wherein said memory stores correspondence information which indicates that the detailed information concerning the at least one message is stored in correspondence with the at least one message, and said control section recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the displayed message is stored in said memory based on the correspondence information.

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 2, wherein to display a help message, said control section changes display contents on said display section when said operating section is operated.

Claims 5-7 (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein said memory stores the detailed information concerning the setting window in correspondence with information concerning the setting window, and said control section 5 recognizes whether or not the detailed information concerning the setting window is stored in said memory, when the help key is operated while the identification information is not displayed on said display section, and controls said display section to display the detailed information concerning the setting window, 10 when it is recognized that the detailed information concerning the setting window is stored in said memory.

9. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the displayed message and the detailed information concerning the displayed message respectively comprise an operation instruction for the user and details of the 5 operation instruction, and said control section controls said display section to display the details of the operation instruction when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed together with the operation instruction on said display section.

10. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the displayed message and the detailed information concerning the displayed message respectively comprise a message stating that image printing cannot be started and details indicating that the image forming cannot be started, and said control section controls said display section to display the details indicating that the image forming cannot be started, when the help key is operated while the identification information is displayed together with the message stating that 10 the image forming cannot be started on said display section.

11. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

5 a memory which stores a first message for indicating that image formation cannot be started and detailed information concerning the first message;

10 a display section which displays the first message, when the image formation cannot be started, and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image;

a control section which controls the display section; and

an operating section including a help key which is operable by a user to instruct the display section to display a help message thereon;

15           wherein when the help key is operated while the first message indicating that the image formation cannot be started is displayed on the display section, said control section controls said display section to display the detailed information concerning the first message as the help message, and when the  
20           help key is operated while the first message indicating that the image formation cannot be started ~~cannot be started~~ is not displayed on said display section, said control section controls the display section to display detailed information concerning the setting window as the help message.

12. (Previously Presented) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

5           a memory which stores a first message that includes an operating instruction for a user and detailed information concerning the operating instruction;

10           a display section which displays the first message and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image;

a control section which controls the display section; and an operating section including a help key which is operable by the user to instruct the display section to display a help message thereon;

15       wherein when the help key is operated while the first message that includes the operation instruction for the user is displayed on said display section, said control section controls the display section to display the detailed information of the operating instruction as the help message; and

20       wherein when the help key is operated while the first message that includes the operation instruction is not displayed on the display section, the control section controls the display section to display detailed information concerning the setting window as the help message.

13. (Previously Presented) An image printing apparatus comprising:

an image forming section in which an image is formed based on image data;

5       a memory which stores at least one message and detailed information concerning at least one said message;

a display section which displays a displayed message, which is stored in the memory, and a setting window for setting at least one condition for formation of the image;

10           a control section which controls the display section; and  
              an operating section including a help key which is operable  
by a user to instruct the display section to display a help  
message thereon;

15           wherein when the detailed information concerning the  
displayed message displayed on said display section is stored in  
said memory, said control section controls the display section to  
display the detailed information concerning the displayed message  
as the help message when the help key is operated, and

20           wherein when no detailed information concerning the  
displayed message displayed on the display section is stored in  
the memory, the control section controls said display section to  
display detailed information concerning the setting window as the  
help message.

Claims 14-23 (Canceled).